Status of transmission and distribution network

1437. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have still not prepared any long-term plan to attend to the inadequate and ageing sub-transmission and distribution network which lead to power cuts and local faults;

(b) the steps taken by Government for the efficient use of electricity;

(c) whether Government have fixed any target to supply electricity at competitive rates while increasing the power generation capacity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) National Electricity Policy envisages "power for all" by the end of the Eleventh Five Year Plan to meet the Demand Projections of the 16th Electrical Power Survey (EPS) by 2011-12, a capacity addition of about 1,00,000 MW is required during the Tenth and Eleventh Plans. Out of this, 32094 MW is planned to be added by the end of the Tenth Plan and remaining capacity addition of about 68,000 MW during the Eleventh Plan. Apart from this, the Government of India is implementing the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) under which funds are released as additional central assistance to the States for strengthening and upgradation of sub-transmission and distribution systems in densely electrified zones *i.e.* urban and industrial areas. Central Government provides assistance as grant to the tune of 25% of the project cost for the upgradation and strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution system to the Non-special Category States. Special Category States (North Eastern States, J & K, HP, Uttaranchal and Sikkim) are given 90% assistance in form of grant. Remaining cost of project is to be met by the State Electricity Boards/Utilities against loan from Power Finance Corporation/Rural Electrification Corporation or their own resources.

(b) The Government has enacted the Energy Conservation Act, 2001 for promoting conservation of energy and its efficient use. The Bureau of Energy (BEE) has been established under this Act to implement the provisions of the Act. Many programmes/schemes have been started

in this direction is; which include — Indian Industry Programme for Energy Conservation (IIPEC), Demand Side Management (DSM), Standards & Labelling Programme, Energy Efficiency in Buildings, Delivery Mechanisms for Energy Efficiency Services, Energy Conservation Building Codes, Certification of Energy Managers and Accreditation of Energy Auditors, Development of Energy Performance Codes, National Energy Conservation Awards, National Campaign on Energy Conservation and Painting Competition on Energy Conservation for School Children.

(c) and (d) The tariff for electricity for different consumer categories are determined by the respective State Electricity Regulatory Commissions.

Power plants set up by foreign companies

1438. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from foreign countries for setting up power plants in various parts of our country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any final decision in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) No, Sir. Generation has been delicensed under the Electricity Act, 2003. Proposal of foreign direct investment in respect of power generation (other than nuclear power plants), transmission, distribution projects and power trading are on the RBI automatic approval route and no longer require the prior approval of the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) or the Ministry of Power.

Issues raised by CERC

1439. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) asked